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CORRUPTION

Cautious Progress in Mexico: Citizens' Voices Are Heard in Preliminary Steps to End Corruption
The Mexican government has failed to deliver on promises to curtail corruption, so citizens are taking action and drafting legislation. Leading the charge against graft, grass-roots organizations proposed an anti-corruption bill that if passed would prove to be a historic reform.

Brazil and the Olympics: three steps to re-energise the fight against corruption
Transparency International: 4 August 2016
Brazil is celebrating its hosting of the Olympics, but the shadow of corruption dampens the festivities. Transparency International urges the international community to use the momentum of the games to press for anti-corruption reforms.
https://www.transparency.org/news/feature/brazil_olympics_corruption

For more on this theme:
The numbers game: Putting a figure on corrupt flows into the UK
http://www.transparency.org.uk/the-numbers-game-putting-a-figure-on-corrupt-flows-into-the-uk/

Italy's anti-corruption agency probes Rome rubbish firm as waste piles up
http://www.reuters.com/article/us-italy-rome-waste-idUSKCN10F1NL

Youths in Dhangadi unite to curb corruption
https://thehimalayantimes.com/nepal/youths-dhangadi-unite-curb-corruption/

Minnis Unveils Plans To Tackle Corruption

Greed, low salaries driving corruption – IEA report

Yogera: New platform launched to fight corruption

Guizhou Axes Anti-Graft Tool Used as Corruption Loophole
DRUG TRAFFICKING

Executions Cast a Pall Over Indonesia and Its ‘War on Drugs’

Despite the liberal use of the death penalty, Indonesia is failing to stop the flow of illegal drugs. If the threat of death does not curtail trafficking, why does Indonesia persist with a losing strategy?
http://thediplomat.com/2016/08/executions-cast-a-pall-over-indonesia-and-its-war-on-drugs/

Colombia's New, Legal Drug Barons Focus on Medical Marijuana

Hoping to sell marijuana globally, many Colombian farmers are turning flower fields into marijuana plants. One problem: Although Colombia has decriminalized marijuana, its use is still forbidden in most of the world.
http://www.nytimes.com/2016/08/05/business/international/colombia-medical-marijuana-drugs.html

For more on this theme:
- Latest drug overdose threat: Elephant sedatives
- Colombia Busts Over 100 FARC Cocaine Labs
- Venezuela President's Cabinet Choice Further Politicizes Drug Cases
- The US government is zeroing in on a suspected ‘global hub of drug trafficking’
- Dead or alive: Is the Philippines' war on drugs out of control?
  http://www.cnn.com/2016/08/03/asia/philippines-war-on-drugs/
- The world's 3rd-biggest cocaine producer says it struck 'the most important blow against drug trafficking'
  http://www.businessinsider.com/bolivia-seizes-8-tons-of-cocaine-headed-for-the-us-2016-8
- Mapp Focuses on Eliminating Drug Trafficking to Reduce Violent Crimes in Territory at HIDTA Board Meeting
TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

Illegal Gold Mining in Peru
Sam Wang – Council on Hemispheric Affairs: 29 July 2016

Illegal gold mining in Peru is destroying rain forests, exploiting workers and contaminating water. Until now, the government has either ignored the consequences or responded with a heavy hand. But it must craft an effective response for the sake of economic development, environmental protection and worker rights.

http://www.coha.org/illegal-gold-mining-in-peru/

Can Smart Collaboration Stop the Killing of Endangered Wildlife in Tanzania?
Lindy Taverner – National Geographic: 4 August 2016

An elite multiagency task force in Tanzania is targeting poachers, buyers and traders to apprehend and prosecute those responsible for illegal wildlife trafficking.


For more on this theme:

Expert Says 88% of Colombia’s Gold Produced Illegally

Frontline enforcement officials from Yunnan receive CITES training

Unsustainable and illegal wildlife trade in Pakistan

Without crackdown on ivory trade, elephants could be extinct within 25 years, EU warned

Crime Against Wild Animals Opening Doors for Organized Global Crimes
http://allafrica.com/stories/201608011251.html

US pumps millions more into Namibia’s anti-poaching war

Action team vs mining, illegal logging to be formed
SECURITY FORCES

Honduras Police Reformers Release Details of Online Complaints
Tristan Clavel – InSight Crime: 4 August 2016

The Honduran police have been beleaguered by accusations of corruption and illicit activities. To hold officers accountable, the Honduras Police Reform Commission created an online platform for complaints and recently released its first assessment of the site’s effectiveness.


Police Lethality in Brazil: Is There a Racial Bias?

According to a recent report, the deaths of young Afro-Brazilian men at the hands of police have reached record levels. While many police killings involved the legitimate use of force, the report points out that many others appeared to be extrajudicial executions. The government has done little to address the problem.

https://www.wola.org/analysis/police-lethality-brazil-racial-bias/

For more on this theme:

Fiji police must confront gender based violence better

Evidence synthesis: security sector reform and organisational capacity building

Dozens of Peru Police Investigated for Extrajudicial Killings

The Philippines’ war on drugs: Outrage over extrajudicial killings
http://www.koat.com/national/the-philippines-war-on-drugs-outrage-over-extrajudicial-killings/41042018

MONEY LAUNDERING

Artificial Intelligence and Anti-Money Laundering
Kristofer Readling – Bipartisan Policy Center: 26 July 2016

Still relying on anti-money laundering principles from the 1970s, authorities have failed to address the issue of terrorism finance as effectively as they could. Innovation that incorporates new technologies could make tracking and shutting down these operations faster, safer and easier.

Anonymity Overdose
Nathan Proctor and Julia Ladics – Fair Share Education Fund: August 2016

A new report from the Fair Share Education Fund highlights how criminal groups, many from Latin America, use anonymous shell companies to help launder dirty money and how a simple legal change could help law enforcement tackle the issue.

http://www.fairshareonline.org/sites/default/files/AnonymityOverdose_Aug1_2016.pdf

For more on this theme:

Argentina Drug Traffickers Laundered $269 Million: Minister

Dirty Money Laundered to Reinvest in Moldovan Banks

Reports of money laundering on the rise
http://yle.fi/uutiset/reports_of_money_laundering_on_the_rise/9073486

LexisNexis Risk Solutions and start-up join to curb bitcoin money-laundering

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND IRREGULAR MIGRATION

Migrants’ Rights Must be Upheld to Help Combat Human Trafficking

Just because a migrant doesn’t appear to fit the stereotype of a trafficked person doesn’t mean he hasn’t been exploited. Protecting the rights of these migrants is critical to curtailing human trafficking and ending the cycle of abuse.


New Campaign Informs Migrants of the Perils of Irregular Migration

To give migrants the full picture before they attempt the perilous journey across the Mediterranean Sea, IOM launched a campaign dubbed “Aware Migrants” that highlights the risks.

https://weblog.iom.int/new-campaign-informs-migrants-perils-irregular-migration

For more on this theme:

The Growing Issue of Climate Migration
http://www.americansecurityproject.org/the-growing-issue-of-climate-migration/

The Alliance for Prosperity Plan: A Failed Effort for Stemming Migration

The Anti-Human-Trafficking Crusader

Unwanted Migration: How Governments Cope?
http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/unwanted-migration-how-governments-cope
INTERNET GOVERNANCE

Let the geeks rule over the Internet

Maintaining a free and open internet is the job of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers. This global body has been in place since 1998, and we must trust it to protect the structure of the internet.


For more on this theme:
(U.S.) Systematizing Privacy, Governance of Data and the Internet of Things

(Global) Reflecting on ICANN 56
http://www.legallyindia.com/blogs/reflecting-on-icann-56

(Global) ‘ICANN’s general counsel should lose his job over this’
http://www.theregister.co.uk/2016/08/04/icanns_general_counsel_should_lose_his_job_over_this/

INTERNET FREEDOM

People in Thailand are going to jail for Facebook comments
Elian Peltier – Vice News: 3 August 2016

Employing a law that permits punishing anyone who criticizes the king or his family, the Thai government is jailing citizens for Facebook comments deemed offensive to the royals.

https://news.vice.com/article/young-people-in-thailand-are-going-to-jail-for-facebook-comments

For more on this theme:
(Turkey, Global) Turkey must be removed from UN core groups on internet freedom and peaceful protests

(U.S., Russia) Is Hacking Hillary Clinton Russian Payback for the “Freedom to Connect”?

(Nepal) Clear provision to ensure freedom of expression on internet sought
PRIVACY AND SECURITY

Bad Laws Are Contagious: Demystifying the UAE’s New Information Tech Law
Amin Jobran – Global Voices: 3 August 2016

The United Arab Emirates may criminalize the use of virtual private networks and other methods of avoiding censorship. Experts fear this will impact online expression and hope other regional governments will not follow suit.

https://globalvoices.org/2016/08/03/bad-laws-are-contagious-demystifying-the-uae-s-new-information-tech-law/

For more on this theme:

(Global) Can companies ever keep our data safe?

(U.S.) States lead Washington on consumer privacy laws
https://www.brookings.edu/2016/08/03/states-lead-washington-on-consumer-privacy-laws/

(EU, U.S.) EU privacy watchdogs keep open mind on new U.S. data pact
http://www.reuters.com/article/eu-dataprotection-usa-idUSL1N1AC0LM

CYBER STATECRAFT DEVELOPMENT

Malware Linked to Government of Kazakhstan Targets Journalists, Political Activists, Lawyers: EFF Report
Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF): 4 August 2016

According to a new report by the EFF, the government of Kazakhstan may be behind malware and online phishing attacks against journalists, activists and political opponents.

https://www.eff.org/press/releases/malware-linked-government-kazakhstan-targets-journalists-political-activists-lawyers

For more on this theme:

(Russia, U.S.) Russians aren’t just hacking the DNC – they are hacking America

(North Korea, South Korea) Seoul blames North Korean organisation for high-level cyber attacks
http://www.ibtimes.co.in/seoul-blames-north-korean-organisation-high-level-cyber-attacks-688555#gQ-MTDFL39fqmoHA3.97

(China, U.S.) The U.S.-China Cyber Agreement: A Good First Step
PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

Interpol arrest sheds light on cybercriminal network
ITWeb Africa: 2 August 2016

Collaborating with Interpol, security firm Trend Micro provided information that led to the arrest of a hacker who spearheaded an international criminal network suspected of stealing more than $60 million through online scams and fraud.


For more on this theme:
(U.S.) Public-Private Partnerships in Municipal Broadband Internet
(Europe) Telefonica joins EU cyber security push
(U.S.) The energy sector deals with cyber-risks: key points

PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

What's the Future of Chinese Hacking?
Adam Segal – Motherboard: 30 July 2016

According to cyber security firm FireEye, Chinese cyber espionage has dramatically decreased over the past year. Because China is looking to dominate cyberspace and wants to move into high technology innovation, it is unlikely the downturn will become the new norm.

https://motherboard.vice.com/read/future-of-chinese-hacking

For more on this theme:
(U.S., China) Trust but Verify: The United States, China & Economic Espionage
(Global) The IOC Wants to Ban GIFs of the Olympics, Which, Ha, Good Luck
(U.S., Global) Corporate Espionage: Cyber Attacks in the Manufacturing Industry
CYBER CAPACITY BUILDING

71 percent of IT execs say cyber talent shortage causing measurable harm

The cyber talent dearth has global IT leaders in a panic and blaming government inaction, according to a recent joint study from the Center for Strategic and International Studies and Intel Security.


For more on this theme:

(Africa) Facebook lures Africa with free internet — but what is the hidden cost?
https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/aug/01/facebook-free-basics-internet-africa-mark-zuckerberg

(Global) Cyber Security, Speed & Capacity: Why networks are key for digital transformation success

(Singapore, U.S.) Singapore, US ink MOU on cybersecurity

COMBATING TERRORISM AND CYBER CRIME

Why Frank Abagnale Doesn’t Use His Debit Card or Write a Check
Will Yakowicz – Inc.: 4 August 2016

Master criminal Frank Abagnale fears for the future. "Up to this point, cyber crime has been cyber crime. Mostly, cyber criminals are motivated to commit crime for financial gain. But in five years, cyber crime is going to get much darker as criminals shift from being financially motivated to attacking infrastructure in the physical world.”

http://www.inc.com/will-yakowicz/frank-abagnale-cyber-crime.html

For more on this theme:

(U.S.) Obama Finally Decides Who’s In Charge When America Comes Under Cyberattack

(U.S.) Until We Reduce Cybercrime, Expect More Russian Meddling

(U.S.) Does DARPA’s Cyber Grand Challenge Need A Safety Protocol?
https://www.eff.org/deeplinks/2016/08/darpa-cgc-safety-protocol
INFORMATION SHARING

Kaminsky: Infosec must innovate, or we may lose the Internet as we know it
Bradley Barth – SC Magazine: 4 August 2016

Cyber security expert Dan Kaminsky urges the information security community to work together rather than compete by sharing information to defeat cyber crime.

http://www.scmagazine.com/kaminsky-infosec-must-innovate-or-we-may-lose-the-internet-as-we-know-it/article/514062/

For more on this theme:

(U.S.) HARMAN Joins the Automotive Information Sharing and Analysis Center to Combat Connected Car Cybersecurity Threats

(U.S., Global) All Partners Access Network Keeps Communication Strong During Rim of the Pacific 2016

CYBER PROTECTION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

DHS considers adding election system as critical cyber infrastructure
Nicole Ogrysko – Federal News Radio: 3 August 2016

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) may add the U.S. election system to the list of crucial infrastructure needing protection from cyber attack. DHS Secretary Jeh Johnson raised the question whether the vote tabulating systems should be categorized as critical infrastructure comparable to the financial sector or power grid.


For more on this theme:

(Vietnam) Passengers stuck at Vietnam’s major airports after cyber-attack

(Global) Are smart city transport systems vulnerable to hackers?

(U.S.) U.S. Government Announces Framework for Responding to Critical Infrastructure Cyber Incidents
PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

ISIS

How a Secretive Branch of ISIS Built a Global Network of Killers

From his prison cell, a German foreign fighter explains how ISIS recruited him to return to Germany to prepare attacks. This revelation sheds light on how ISIS grew its brand of global jihad and perpetrated attacks across Europe.


The Conundrum of the Coming Islamic State Collapse
Perry Cammack – Carnegie: 1 August 2016

While ISIS is losing the territory it has occupied, the group has dispersed and decentralized, perhaps leaving it in a better defensive position once its “caliphate” collapses.

http://carnegieendowment.org/syriaincrisis/64213

For more on this theme:

Everything We Know About ISIS Spy Chief Abu Mohammad al-Adnani

The Islamic State Threat to Germany: Evidence from the Investigations
https://www.ctc.usma.edu/posts/the-islamic-state-threat-to-germany-evidence-from-the-investigations

What are the legal foundations of the Islamic State?
https://www.brookings.edu/2016/07/26/what-are-the-legal-foundations-of-the-islamic-state/

Islamic State Label Gives Legitimacy to Violence

‘Lone wolf’ attacks in Europe are nothing of the sort

The Islamic State’s Bloody Summer
http://www.cfr.org/europe/islamic-states-bloody-summer/p38188

Adorable Kitten Becomes Unlikely Poster Child Of The Islamic State

Jihadists argue over leadership of Islamic State’s West Africa province

The Enduring Influence of Anwar al-Awlaki in the Age of the Islamic State

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TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

Deciphering Competition Between al-Qa’ida and the Islamic State
Clint Watts – Combating Terrorism Center: 27 July 2016

The fissures between al-Qaeda and ISIS have been well-documented. The groups differ in approach, strategy and compete for resources. Further pitting the groups against one another may benefit coalition efforts to disrupt global terrorism.

https://www.ctc.usma.edu/posts/deciphering-competition-between-al-qaida-and-the-islamic-state

Profiling Jabhat al-Nusra
Charles Lister – Brookings: July 2016

While the world has focused on ISIS for the past two years, al-Qaeda and Jabhat al-Nusrah in Syria may prove the bigger threat to security. Jabhat al-Nusrah’s broad coalition-building and support within Syria make it a force to be reckoned with.


For more on this theme:

Nigeria-Boko Haram
http://bigstory.ap.org/article/ba0559a21dccc42d0bf279f3aa199fa39/islamic-state-group-announces-new-boko-haram-leader

Right-Wing Extremism and Terrorism in Europe Current Developments and Issues for the Future

After Boko Haram
https://www.csis.org/podcasts/csis-podcast

Has Al-Nusra Front Severed Ties With Al-Qaeda? – Implications and Significance

U.S. designates Pakistan’s Jamaat-ur-Ahrar a ‘terrorist group’
http://www.reuters.com/article/us-pakistan-militants-idUSKCN10F0MX

Who Runs Boko Haram?

Strategic Insights: The Mysterious Case of the Vanishing Taliban
http://www.strategicstudiesinstitute.army.mil/index.cfm/articles/Mysterious-Case-of-Vanishing-Taliban/2016/08/01
RADICALIZATION AND MESSAGING

Dabiq, Issue 15: A call to Islamic State's enemies as the Caliphate crumbles
Haroro J. Ingram – International Centre for Counter-Terrorism: 4 August 2016

The latest issue of Dabiq – the online magazine used by ISIS for propaganda and recruitment – is interesting for what it contains and what it lacks. The issue celebrates the summer’s terror attacks and seeks to recruit converts, but fails to highlight the politico-military strengths of the group as it has in past issues. The main purpose of this edition seems to be diverting attention away from ISIS’ strategic losses.


Islamist Recruitment in South Asia: Intensifying Efforts
Sanchita Bhattacharya – South Asia Intelligence Review: 1 August 2016

Previously relying on the printed word, ISIS recruiters are focusing more on online methods of recruitment in South Asia, particularly India, Pakistan and Bangladesh.

http://www.ict.org.il/Article/1747/islamist-recruitment-intensifying-efforts

For more on this theme:

The Impact of Counter-Narratives

The Failed Solo Suicide Bombing and Bahrun Naim's Network

ISIS is targeting Southeast Asia amid declining Mideast support: Terror expert

Metro police arrest raises concern of radicalization in the ranks

French Prisons Separate Inmates To Prevent Radicalization
http://www.npr.org/2016/08/02/488412775/french-prisons-separate-inmates-to-prevent-radicalization

With New Approach, Can the U.S. Get Counter-Radicalization Right?
http://www.worldpoliticsreview.com/trend-lines/19550/with-new-approach-can-the-u-s-get-counter-radicalization-right

800 militants join Nigerian de-radicalization program
FOREIGN FIGHTERS

‘Your son has become a martyr’: the Russian fighters from Dagestan rising up the ranks of Islamic State
Roland Oliphant – The Telegraph: 30 July 2016

Fighters from Russia and the former Soviet states are valued by ISIS and granted a degree of autonomy uncommon among foreign recruits. According to Ekaterina Sokiryanskaya, an expert on the North Caucasus with the International Crisis Group: “They have a reputation for being pretty fearless fighters, which is why they move quite quickly up the hierarchy.”


For more on this theme:

The Challenge of Tracking Terror Suspects

A Diaspora of Terror
http://soufangroup.com/tsg-intelbrief-a-diaspora-of-terror/

DOD: ‘The Enemy Can Still Bring Foreign Fighters Into Mosul’

Britain Bombs Saddam Palace Used by ISIS as Foreign Fighter Base in Iraq

ISIL isn't merely tolerant of people who speak languages besides Arabic; it needs them

COUNTERTERRORISM STRATEGIES

How to defeat terrorism: Intelligence, integration, and development

After myriad recent terrorist attacks, it is clear that to defeat terrorism, strategies must pinpoint root causes and focus on prevention and risk mitigation. The author believes a policy strategy should include three components: intelligence, integration and development.

https://www.brookings.edu/2016/07/25/how-to-defeat-terrorism-intelligence-integration-and-develop-

“Defeating” ISIS: The Real Threats and Challenges
Anthony Cordesman – Center for Strategic & International Studies: 4 August 2016

Sporadic terror attacks against the West will continue regardless of anti-ISIS coalition efforts to defeat the group. But we must keep fear in check and be realistic in our threat assessments.

Engaging Women to Help Combat Extremism
Amy Calfas – Fair Observer: 1 August 2016

At the annual Global Entrepreneurship Summit, experts discussed the importance of including women and marginalized groups in efforts to combat extremism.

http://www.fairobserver.com/region/middle_east_north_africa/engaging-women-combat-extremism-01991/

For more on this theme:

After Orlando and Nice, we must Change Our Approach to Islamic State
http://www.cidob.org/en/publications/publication_series/opinion/seguridad_y_politica_mundial/after_orlando_and_nice_we_must_change_our_approach_to_islamic_state

Children Detained as National Security Threats

The Right Way to Defeat Terrorism
http://fpif.org/right-way-defeat-terrorism/

Cults Of Security And Terror: Fear Ahead Of The Rio Olympic Games

How (not) to manage fear after terrorist attacks

Safe Havens in Pakistan: Terror Tools in the Region
http://idsa.in/idsanews/reshmi-kazi-article-on-pakistan-as-safe-haven-for-militant

Challenges that regional armies face in war against Boko Haram

US enhances counterterrorism cooperation with Central Asia

US Airstrikes in Libya Seen as First Step Along Long Path to Defeat ISIS

The Return of the French National Guard
CONSEQUENCE MANAGEMENT

DISASTER MITIGATION AND MANAGEMENT

Earthquake warning system for NCR: What it will do, how it will work
Sakshi Dayal – The Indian Express: 29 July 2016
An earthquake warning system can raise the alarm 30 seconds before a strong quake and shut down critical systems such as water and energy supplies to minimize damage and loss of life.

France trains NSCDC on disaster management
Vanguard: 1 August 2016
France is providing equipment and training for the Nigeria Security and Civil Defense Corps to improve the African nation’s ability to respond to and manage disasters.

How the U.S. Military Can Battle Zika
Gabriella Meltzer and Aaron Picozzi – Council on Foreign Relations: 28 July 2016
Rapidly mobilizing the military to conduct advisory missions and strengthen and develop response systems against epidemics could potentially pre-empt problems associated with an outbreak such as Zika. The goal is regional stability.

For more on this theme:
Mitigating future forest fires

We act fast, and we can save lives
https://www.oxfamamerica.org/explore/stories/we-act-fast-and-we-can-save-lives/

Volunteers prepare to assist during disaster
http://herald-zeitung.com/community_alert/article_fe9c07e0-5936-11e6-81bf-4701d90d9544.html

Natural disaster can be dealt thru better planning: NDMA
http://pakobserver.net/2016/08/03/natural-disaster-can-be-dealt-thru-better-planning-ndma/

UNDP: PNG’s First Disaster Information System Setup Underway

How Cyclone Pam led Vanuatu to rethink its disaster laws

Commissioner Stylianides recruits “Aid Volunteers” for in disaster-affected regions relief
http://cyprus-mail.com/2016/08/03/commissioner-stylianides-recruits-aid-volunteers-disaster-affected-regions-relief/